

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

On page 1 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application 09/551,160, filed April 14, 2000, which claims benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Application 60/129,324, filed April 14, 1999, ~~which is~~ both of which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

On page 10 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 23 as follows:

Both compounds (1 and 2) may be considered intermediates for the production of additional DPP derivatives since the cyano groups of compound 2 and the cyano and ~~carboxyl~~ carbonyl groups of compound 1 are functionalities that may be readily modified further.